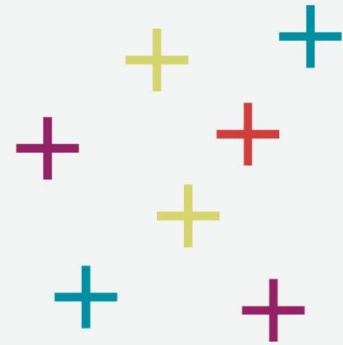


Hope College  
2025-2026



# BENEFIT PLAN NOTICES



*If you have Medicare or will become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, a federal law gives you more choices about your prescription drug coverage. Please see page 12 for more details.*



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## SPECIAL ENROLLMENT NOTICE

This notice is being provided to ensure that you understand your right to apply for group health insurance coverage. You should read this notice even if you plan to waive coverage at this time.

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing towards you or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after you or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

Example: You waived coverage because you were covered under a plan offered by your spouse's employer. Your spouse terminates his employment. If you notify your employer within 30 days of the date coverage ends, you and your eligible dependents may apply for coverage under our health plan.

If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Example: When you were hired by us, you were single and chose not to elect health insurance benefits. One year later, you marry. You and your eligible dependents are entitled to enroll in this group health plan. However, you must apply within 30 days from the date of your marriage.

If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after you or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

Example: When you were hired by us, your children received health coverage under CHIP and you did not enroll them in our health plan. Because of changes in your income, your children are no longer eligible for CHIP coverage. You may enroll them in this group health plan if you apply within 60 days of the date of their loss of CHIP coverage.

If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after you or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

**To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact your Human Resource Department within 30 days of the qualifying event.**

# PREMIUM ASSISTANCE UNDER MEDICAID AND THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or [www.insurekidsnow.gov](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov) to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at [www.askebsa.dol.gov](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov) or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of July 31, 2025. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	ALASKA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myalhipp.com/">http://myalhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-692-5447	The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a> Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx">https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx</a>
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website: <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a> Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: <a href="mailto:hipp@dhcs.ca.gov">hipp@dhcs.ca.gov</a>
COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)	FLORIDA – Medicaid
Health First Colorado Website: <a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/</a> Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/State Relay 711 CHP+: <a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus">https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus</a> CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): <a href="https://www.mycohibi.com/">https://www.mycohibi.com/</a> HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	Website: <a href="https://www.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html">https://www.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html</a> Phone: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid	INDIANA – Medicaid
GA HIPP Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp</a> Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra</a> Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2	Health Insurance Premium Payment Program All other Medicaid Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a> <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/</a> Family and Social Services Administration Phone: 1-800-403-0864 Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584

IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	KANSAS – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://iowa.medicare.gov/Health%20and%20Human%20Services">Iowa Medicaid   Health &amp; Human Services</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: <a href="http://hawki.iowa.gov/Health%20and%20Well%20Kids%20in%20Iowa%20Health%20and%20Human%20Services">Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa   Health &amp; Human Services</a> Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: <a href="http://healthinsurancepremiumpayment.hipp.iowa.gov">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)   Health &amp; Human Services (iowa.gov)</a> HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Website: <a href="https://www.kancare.ks.gov/">https://www.kancare.ks.gov/</a> Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	LOUISIANA – Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: <a href="mailto:KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov">KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov</a> KCHIP Website: <a href="https://kynect.ky.gov">https://kynect.ky.gov</a> Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.medicare.la.gov">www.medicare.la.gov</a> or <a href="http://www.ldh.la.gov/la hipp">www.ldh.la.gov/la hipp</a> Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)
MAINE – Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP
Enrollment Website: <a href="https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US">https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US</a> Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</a> Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pg">https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pg</a> Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Email: <a href="mailto:masspreassistance@accenture.com">masspreassistance@accenture.com</a>
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Website: <a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/">https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/</a> Phone: 1-800-657-3672	Website: <a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</a> Phone: 573-751-2005
MONTANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP">http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP</a> Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: <a href="mailto:HSHIPPProgram@mt.gov">HSHIPPProgram@mt.gov</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a> Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178
NEVADA – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dhcfp.nv.gov">http://dhcfp.nv.gov</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program</a> Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218 Email: <a href="mailto:DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov">DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov</a>
NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP	NEW YORK – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/">http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-356-1561 CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html">http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</a> CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)	Website: <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/">https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-541-2831
NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/">https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/</a> Phone: 919-855-4100	Website: <a href="https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare">https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare</a> Phone: 1-844-854-4825

OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP	OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="http://www.insureoklahoma.org">http://www.insureoklahoma.org</a> Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: <a href="http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> Phone: 1-800-699-9075
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html">https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462 CHIP Website: <a href="#">Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (pa.gov)</a> CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)	Website: <a href="http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/">http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/</a> Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rlfe Share Line)
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid
Website: <a href="https://www.scdhhs.gov">https://www.scdhhs.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-828-0059
TEXAS – Medicaid	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="#">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Texas Health and Human Services</a> Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/</a> Email: <a href="mailto:upp@utah.gov">upp@utah.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-222-2542 Adult Expansion Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/</a> Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/</a> CHIP Website: <a href="https://chip.utah.gov/">https://chip.utah.gov/</a>
VERMONT– Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="#">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Department of Vermont Health Access</a> Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select</a> <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a> Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
WASHINGTON – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/">https://www.hca.wa.gov/</a> Phone: 1-800-562-3022	Website: <a href="https://dhr.wv.gov/bms/">https://dhr.wv.gov/bms/</a> <a href="http://mywvhipp.com/">http://mywvhipp.com/</a> Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm</a> Phone: 1-800-362-3002	Website: <a href="https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/">https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/</a> Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa)  
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
[www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov)  
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

# HOPE COLLEGE NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes the legal obligations of the Hope College Employee Benefit Plans (the "Plans") and your legal rights regarding your protected health information held by the Plan under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH"). This Notice has been drafted in accordance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, contained in the Code of Federal Regulations at 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164. Terms not defined in this Notice have the same meaning as they have in the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

Among other things, this Notice describes how your protected health information may be used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations, or for any other purposes that are permitted or required by law.

We are required to provide this Notice of Privacy Practices (the "Notice") to you pursuant to HIPAA.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule protects only certain medical information known as "protected health information." Generally, protected health information is individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, collected from you or created or received by a health care provider, a health care clearinghouse, a health plan, or your employer on behalf of a group health plan that relates to:

- (1) Your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition;
- (2) The provision of health care to you; or
- (3) The past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to you.

If you have any questions about this Notice or about our privacy practices, please contact Human Resources.

## Effective Date

This Notice is effective 7/1/2025.

## DEFINITIONS

**Plan Sponsor** means **Hope College** and any other employer that maintains the Plan for the benefit of its associates.

**Protected Health Information ("PHI")** means individually identifiable health information, which is defined under the law as information that is a subset of health information, including demographic information, that is created or received by the Plan and that relates to your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition; the health care services you receive; or the past, present, or future payment for the health care services you receive; and that identifies you, or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify you.

## USES AND DISCLOSURES OF YOUR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

The following categories describe different ways that the Plan may use and disclose your PHI. For each category of uses and disclosures we will explain what we mean and, where appropriate, provide examples for illustrative purposes. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways we are permitted or required to use and disclose PHI will fall within one of the categories.



**Your Authorization** – Except as outlined below or otherwise permitted by law, the Plan will not use or disclose your PHI unless you have signed a form authorizing the Plan to use or disclose specific PHI for an explicit purpose to a specific person or group of persons. Uses and disclosures of your PHI for marketing purposes and/or the sale of your PHI require your authorization. You have the right to revoke any authorization in writing except to the extent that the Plan has taken action in reliance upon the authorization.

**Uses and Disclosures for Payment** – The Plan may use and disclose your PHI as necessary for benefit payment purposes without obtaining an authorization from you. The persons to whom the Plan may disclose your PHI for payment purposes include your health care providers that are billing for or requesting a prior authorization for their services and treatments of you, other health plans providing benefits to you, and your approved family member or guardian who is responsible for amounts, such as deductibles and co-insurance, not covered by the Plan.

For example, the Plan may use or disclose your PHI, including information about any medical procedures and treatments you have received, are receiving, or will receive, to your doctor, your spouse's or other health plan under which you are covered, and your spouse or other family members, unless you object, in order to process your benefits under the Plan. Examples of other payment activities include determinations of your eligibility or coverage under the Plan, annual premium calculations based on health status and demographic characteristics of persons covered under the Plan, billing, claims management, reinsurance claims, review of health care services with respect to medical necessity, utilization review activities, and disclosures to consumer reporting agencies.

**Uses and Disclosures for Health Care Operations** – The Plan may use and disclose your PHI as necessary for health care operations without obtaining an authorization from you. Health care operations are those functions of the Plan it needs to operate on a day-to-day basis and those activities that help it to evaluate its performance. Examples of health care operations include underwriting, premium rating or other activities relating to the creation, amendment or termination of the Plan, and obtaining reinsurance coverage. Other functions considered to be health care operations include business planning and development; conducting or arranging for quality assessment and improvement activities, medical review, and legal services and auditing functions; and performing business management and general administrative duties of the Plan, including the provision of customer services to you and your covered dependents.

**Use or Disclosure of Genetic Information Prohibited** – The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2009 (GINA), and regulations promulgated thereunder, specifically prohibit the use, disclosure or request of PHI that is genetic information for underwriting purposes. Genetic information is defined as (1) your genetic tests; (2) genetic tests of your family member; (3) family medical history, or (4) any request of or receipt by you or your family members of genetic services. This means that your genetic information cannot be used for enrollment, continued eligibility, computation of premiums, or other activities related to underwriting, even if those activities are for purposes of health care operations or being performed pursuant to your written authorization.

**Family and Friends Involved in Your Care** – If you are available and do not object, the Plan may disclose your PHI to your family, friends, and others who are involved in your care or payment of a claim. If you are unavailable or incapacitated and the Plan determines that a limited disclosure is in your best interest, the Plan may share limited PHI with such individuals. For example, the Plan may use its professional judgment to disclose PHI to your spouse concerning the processing of a claim. If you do not wish us to share PHI with your spouse or others, you may exercise your right to request a restriction on our disclosures of your PHI (see below), including having correspondence the Plan sends to you mailed to an alternative address. The Plan is also required to abide by certain state laws that are more stringent than the HIPAA Privacy Standards, for example, some states give a minor child the right to consent to his or her own treatment and, under HIPAA, to direct who may know about the care he or she receives. There may be an instance when your minor child would request for you not to be informed of his or her treatment and the Plan would be required to honor that request.

**Business Associates** – Certain aspects and components of the Plan's services are performed through contracts with outside persons or organizations. Examples of these outside persons and organizations include our third-party administrator, reinsurance carrier, agents, attorneys, accountants, banks, and consultants. At times it may be necessary for us to provide certain of your PHI to one or more of these outside persons or organizations. However,



if the Plan does provide your PHI to any or all of these outside persons or organizations, they will be required, through contract or by law, to follow the same policies and procedures with your PHI as detailed in this Notice.

**Plan Sponsor** – The Plan may disclose a subset of your PHI, called summary health information, to the Plan Sponsor in certain situations. Summary health information summarizes claims history, claims expenses, and types of claims experienced by individuals under the Plan, but all information that could effectively identify whose claims history has been summarized has been removed. Summary health information may be given to the Plan Sponsor when requested for the purposes of obtaining premium bids, for providing coverage under the Plan, or for modifying, amending or terminating the Plan. The Plan may also disclose to the Plan Sponsor whether you are enrolled in or have disenrolled from the Plan.

**Other Products and Services** – The Plan may contact you to provide information about other health-related products and services that may be of interest to you without obtaining your authorization. For example, the Plan may use and disclose your PHI for the purpose of communicating to you about health benefit products or services that could enhance or substitute for existing coverage under the Plan, such as long-term health benefits or flexible spending accounts. The Plan may also contact you about health-related products and services, like disease management programs that may add value to you, as a covered person under the Plan. However, the Plan must obtain your authorization before the Plan sends you information regarding non-health related products or services, such as information concerning movie passes, life insurance products, or other discounts or services offered to the general public at large.

**Other Uses and Disclosures** – Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Plan may make certain other uses and disclosures of your PHI without your authorization, including the following:

The Plan may use or disclose your PHI to the extent that the use or disclosure is required by law.

The Plan may disclose your PHI to the proper authorities if the Plan suspects child abuse or neglect; the Plan may also disclose your PHI if we believe you to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.

The Plan may disclose your PHI if authorized by law to a government oversight agency (e.g., a state insurance department) conducting audits, investigations, or civil or criminal proceedings.

The Plan may disclose your PHI in response to a court order specifically authorizing the disclosure, or in the course of a judicial or administrative proceeding (e.g., to respond to a subpoena or discovery request), provided written and documented efforts by the requesting party have been made to (1) notify you of the disclosure and the purpose of the litigation, or (2) obtain a qualified protective order prohibiting the use or disclosure of your PHI for any other purpose than the litigation or proceeding for which it was requested.

The Plan may disclose your PHI to the proper authorities for law enforcement purposes, including the disclosure of certain identifying information requested by police officers for the purpose of identifying or locating a suspect, fugitive, material witness or missing person; the disclosure of your PHI if you are suspected to be a victim of a crime and you are incapacitated; or if you are suspected of committing a crime on the Plan (e.g., fraud).

The Plan may use or disclose PHI to avert a serious threat to health or safety.

The Plan may use or disclose your PHI if you are a member of the military, as required by armed forces services, and the Plan may also disclose your PHI for other specialized government functions such as national security or intelligence activities.

The Plan may disclose your PHI to state or federal workers' compensation agencies for your workers' compensation benefit determination.

The Plan may, as required by law, release your PHI to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services for enforcement of the HIPAA Privacy Rules.

**Special Protections for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Records** - Federal law (42 CFR Part 2) provides additional privacy protections for records related to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment. If the Plan receives or maintains SUD treatment information about you, those records will not be used or disclosed unless you provide written consent or as otherwise permitted by Part 2 or HIPAA.

**Treatment, Payment, and Operations:** We may use or disclose your SUD records for treatment, payment, or health care operations only if you have signed a valid written consent, unless the law specifically allows it.

**Legal Proceedings:** Your SUD records, or testimony relaying the content of such records, may not be used or disclosed for civil, criminal, administrative, or legislative proceeding against you without your written consent or a court orders it.

**Re-disclosure Prohibited:** If the Plan shares your SUD information with another party (with your consent or as allowed by law), federal law prohibits the other party from re-disclosing it unless you specifically authorize it or the law permits.

**Your Consent Matters:** You have the right to grant or deny consent for most disclosures, and you may revoke consent at any time.

**Verification Requirements** – Before the Plan discloses your PHI to anyone requesting it, the Plan is required to verify the identity of the requester and the requester's authority to access your PHI. The Plan may rely on reasonable evidence of authority such as a badge, official credentials, written statements on appropriate government letterhead, written or oral statements of legal authority, warrants, subpoenas, or court orders.

## **RIGHTS THAT YOU HAVE**

To request to inspect, copy, amend, or get an accounting of PHI pertaining to your PHI in the Plan, you may contact the Privacy Officer.

**Right to Inspect and Copy Your PHI** – You have the right to request a copy of and/or inspect your PHI that the Plan maintains, unless the PHI was compiled in reasonable anticipation of litigation or contains psychotherapy notes. In certain limited circumstances, the Plan may deny your request to copy and/ or inspect your PHI. In most of those limited circumstances, a licensed health care provider must determine that the release of the PHI to you or a person authorized by you, as your “personal representative,” may cause you or someone else identified in the PHI harm. If your request is denied, you may have the right to have the denial reviewed by a designated licensed health care professional that did not participate in the original decision. Requests for access to your PHI must be in writing and signed by you or your personal representative. You may ask for a *Participant PHI Inspection Form* from the Plan through the Privacy Office at the address below. If you request that the Plan copy or mail your PHI to you, the Plan may charge you a fee for the cost of copying your PHI and the postage for mailing your PHI to you. If you ask the Plan to prepare a summary of the PHI, and the Plan agrees to provide that explanation, the Plan may also charge you for the cost associated with the preparation of the summary.

**Right to Request Amendments to Your PHI** – You have the right to request that PHI the Plan maintains about you be amended or corrected. The Plan is not obligated to make requested amendments to PHI that is not created by the Plan, not maintained by the Plan, not available for inspection, or that is accurate and complete. The Plan will give each request careful consideration. To be considered, your amendment request must be in writing, must be signed by you or your personal representative, must state the reasons for the amendment request, and must be sent to the Privacy Office at the address below. If the Plan denies your amendment request, the Plan will provide you with its basis for the denial, advise you of your right to prepare a statement of disagreement which it will place with your PHI, and describe how you may file a complaint with the Plan or the Secretary of the US Department of Health and Human Services. The Plan may limit the length of your statement of disagreement and submit its own rebuttal to accompany your statement of disagreement. If the Plan accepts your amendment

request, it must make a reasonable effort to provide the amendment to persons you identify as needing the amendment or persons it believes would rely on your unamended PHI to your detriment.

**Right to Request an Accounting for Disclosures of Your PHI** – You have the right to request an accounting of disclosures of your PHI that the Plan makes. Your request for an accounting of disclosures must state a time period that may not be longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2004. Not all disclosures of your PHI must be included in the accounting of the disclosures. Examples of disclosures that the Plan is required to account for include those pursuant to valid legal process, or for law enforcement purposes. Examples of disclosures that are not subject to an accounting include those made to carry out the Plan's payment or health care operations, or those made with your authorization. To be considered, your accounting requests must be in writing and signed by you or your personal representative, and sent to the Privacy Office at the address below. The first accounting in any 12-month period is free; however, the Plan may charge you a fee for each subsequent accounting you request within the same 12-month period.

**Right to Place Restrictions on the Use and Disclosure of Your PHI** – You have the right to request restrictions on certain of the Plan's uses and disclosures of your PHI for payment or health care operations, disclosures made to persons involved in your care, and disclosures for disaster relief purposes. For example, you may request that the Plan not disclose your PHI to your spouse. Your request must describe in detail the restriction you are requesting. The Plan is not required to agree to your request, but will attempt to accommodate reasonable requests when appropriate. The Plan retains the right to terminate an agreed-to restriction if it believes such termination is appropriate. In the event of a termination by the Plan, it will notify you of the termination. You also have the right to terminate, in writing or orally, any agreed-to restriction. Requests for a restriction (or termination of an existing restriction) may be made by contacting the Plan through the Privacy Office at the telephone number or address below.

**Request for Confidential Communications** – You have the right to request that communications regarding your PHI be made by alternative means or at alternative locations. For example, you may request that messages not be left on voice mail or sent to a particular address. The Plan is required to accommodate reasonable requests if you inform the Plan that disclosure of all or part of your information could place you in danger. The Plan may grant other requests for confidential communications in its sole discretion. Requests for confidential communications must be in writing, signed by you or your personal representative, and sent to the Privacy Office at the address below.

**Right to a Copy of the Notice** – You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice upon request by contacting the Privacy Office.

**Right to Notice of Breach** – You have the right to receive notice if your PHI is improperly used or disclosed as a result of a breach of unsecured PHI.

**Complaints** – If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with the Plan through the Privacy Office in writing at the address below. You may also file a complaint in writing with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C., within 180 days of a violation of your rights. There will be no retaliation for filing a complaint.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you have questions or need further assistance regarding this Notice, you may contact your human resources department.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM HOPE COLLEGE ABOUT YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE AND MEDICARE

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Hope College and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. Hope College has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Hope College Employer Welfare Plan is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

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## When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15th to December 7th.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

## What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current Hope College coverage may not be affected.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current Hope College coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back.

## When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with Hope College and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this

higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

#### **For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...**

Contact the person listed below for further information. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through Hope College changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

#### **For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...**

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

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*Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).*

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Date:	For benefit period beginning 7/1/2025
Name of Entity/Sender:	Hope College
Contact--Position/Office:	Human Resource Department
Address:	100 E. 8th St. Suite 210, Holland, MI 64720
Phone Number:	(616) 395-7818

## **NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT OF 1998**

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 was passed into law on October 21, 1998 amending the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The law requires plans which provide mastectomy coverage to provide notice to individuals of their rights to benefits for breast reconstruction following a mastectomy. Your Plan currently provides coverage for a mastectomy and reconstructive breast surgery following a mastectomy. Benefits for medical and surgical treatment for reconstruction in connection with a mastectomy are further clarified as follows according to the requirements of the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998:

- 1) All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
- 2) Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce symmetrical appearance; and
- 3) Coverage for prostheses and physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedema in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient.

These benefits will be paid at the same benefit level as other benefits payable under the Plan.

## **MODEL NEWBORNS' ACT DISCLOSURE**

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

## **MENTAL HEALTH PARITY ACT**

The Mental Health Parity Act (the "Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008") was signed into law on October 3, 2008, and the Federal Mental Health Parity (MHP) law became effective October 3, 2009.

The MHP law applies to group health insurers and to fully insured and self-insured ERISA groups of 51 or more employees that include mental health/substance use disorder benefits. It mandates equalization of copays, coinsurance, deductibles and the elimination of day and visit limits and financial maximums. This can be accomplished by applying the same limits as apply to the medical and surgical benefits, or by creating "separate but equal" limits. The Act does not require health plans to provide mental health/ substance use disorder benefits; however, if these benefits are offered, they must be at parity with the group's medical and surgical benefits.

## **QUALIFIED MEDICAL CHILD SUPPORT ORDER (QMCSO)**

A Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) is a medical child support order issued under state law that creates or recognizes the existence of an "alternate recipient's" right to receive benefits for which a participant or beneficiary is eligible under a group health plan. An "alternate recipient" is any child of a participant (including a child adopted by or placed for adoption with a participant in a group health plan) who is recognized under a medical child support order as having a right to enrollment under a group health plan with respect to such participant is an alternate recipient. Upon receipt, the administrator of a group health plan is required to determine, within a reasonable period of time, whether a medical child support order is qualified, and to administer benefits in accordance with the applicable terms of each order that is qualified. In the event you are served with a notice to provide medical coverage for a dependent child as the result of a legal determination, you may obtain information from your employer; know the rules for seeking to enact such coverage. These rules are provided at no cost to you and may be requested from your employer at any time.



# HEALTH CARE REFORM NOTIFICATIONS

## Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice includes information about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and provides you with important information that you need to know. Please read this information carefully and contact your HR Department for further clarification.

### Patient Protection

The Plan generally allows the designation of a primary care provider, but it is not required. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, please contact the customer service phone number on your medical ID card.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider, but it is not required.

You do not need prior authorization from your plan or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, please contact the customer service phone number on your medical ID card.

### Non-Grandfathered Plan Notice

This Plan is a "non-grandfathered health plan" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the Affordable Care Act) and will comply with certain other consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, for example, the elimination of lifetime limits on essential benefits.

Questions regarding which protections apply can be directed to the plan administrator. You may also contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 or [www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform). This website has a table summarizing which protections do and do not apply to grandfathered and non-grandfathered health plans.

### Notice Lifetime Limit No Longer Applies and Enrollment Opportunity

The lifetime limit on the dollar value of benefits under the group health plan no longer applies.

### Notice of Extension of Dependent Coverage to Age 26

The limiting age for eligible children has been extended to age 26. Coverage will terminate the end of the month following the 26th birthday.



# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

**LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS:** Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within one year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job; or
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

**BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS:** While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave. Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions. An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave; and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

**REQUESTING LEAVE:** Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified. Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

**EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES:** Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

**ENFORCEMENT:** Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer. The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

*For additional information or to file a complaint: 1-866-4-USWAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627 [www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd) U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division*

## DISCRIMINATION IS AGAINST THE LAW

The company complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The company does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

The company:

- + Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
  - o Qualified sign language interpreters
  - o Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, etc.)
- + Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - o Qualified interpreters
  - o Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact the plan administrator.

If your company has fifteen (15) or more employees and you believe that the company has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, refer to the Plan Administrator for Grievance Procedures or if you need help filing a grievance can be filed in person, by mail, fax, or email.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at

<https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

Centralized Case Management Operations  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at: <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ocr-60-day-frn-cr-crf-complaint-forms-508r-11302022.pdf>.

### Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we are asking that you not provide any genetic information when responding to any requests for medical information, if applicable. 'Genetic information,' as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

***While every effort was taken to accurately provide the notices in this booklet, discrepancies, or errors are always possible. In case of discrepancy between the notice in this booklet and the actual legislation, the legislation will prevail. If you have any questions about this information, contact Human Resources.***